

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

The Examiner in his office action of September 5, 2003 indicated the subject matter of claims 60-63 and 70 as being allowable. Applicant by the instant amendment has amended independent claim 59 so as to incorporate therein the subject matter of dependent claims 60 and 62 which were indicated allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, amended independent claim 59 is now in condition for allowance.

In addition to the foregoing, Applicant submits new claim 80 for the Examiner's consideration. New independent claim 80 is a combination of previously submitted claims 59, 69 and 70. Thus, new independent claim 80 contains the subject matter of previously indicated allowable dependent claim 70 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, new independent claim 80 is allowable.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims as pending patentably define over the art of record and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

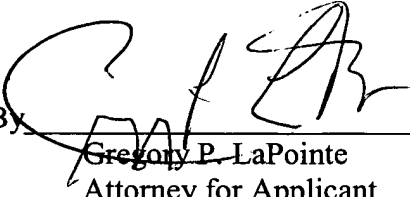
An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 10, 2003


Rachel Piscitelli